

Alcoholic Beverage Control

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NC ABC COMMISSION TAKES ACTION ON 99 HEARING CASES; APPROVES OCEAN ISLE BEACH STORE RELOCATION

RALEIGH – During its regular monthly meeting today, the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission took action on 99 hearing violations. The Commission imposed penalties and fines of approximately \$118,000 on representatives of retail bars, restaurants, groceries and clubs found to be in violation of ABC laws and rules. In addition to the fines, many of the violations resulted in suspensions of permits for five days or more. The fines are to be paid by Oct. 5, 2012, with suspensions beginning Oct.12, 2012. Fines benefit the local school systems where the violations occurred.

The Commission also approved a request from the Ocean Isle Beach ABC Board to relocate its store from 59 Causeway Drive to 6278 Beach Drive.

The newly formed Henderson County ABC Board requested an exemption from the financial conflict of interest restriction outlined in G.S. §18B-201(a) regarding board member Beau Waddell. Commission staff outlined the circumstances during today's meeting: Mr. Waddell's father owns a number of convenience stores, including some in the county. As a recently appointed member of the ABC board, Mr. Beau Waddell, an officer in the family business, would have a say in hiring or contracting for ABC law enforcement that would have jurisdiction over all ABC permittees in the county, including convenience stores with permits to sell alcohol. The state ABC Commission considered the request, and voted to allow the exemption providing Mr. Waddell recuses himself from ABC board discussions and decisions about ABC law enforcement matters and providing that the Henderson County ABC board puts the matter on their agenda as well.

In other business the Commission voted to adopt the rules Rules published in Volume 27, Issue 02 of NC Register (04 NCAC 02S .0525, 04 NCAC 02S .0708, 04 NCAC 02S .0901, 04 NCAC 02S .1011, 04 NCAC 02T .0104, 04 NCAC 02T .0714 and 04 NCAC 02T .0715). The end of the public comment period is Friday, Sept. 14. No comments objecting to the changes have been received and if that is the case through Friday, the rules will be adopted effective Monday, Sept. 17.

ABOUT THE NC ABC COMMISSION

North Carolina is one of 17 states to regulate alcohol through a control system. Since 1937, the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission has provided regulation and control over the sale, purchase, transportation, manufacture, consumption and possession of alcoholic beverages in the state. The Commission oversees more than 25,000 permits allowing alcohol sales by more than 17,000 retail outlets across the state and applies its regulatory authority to benefit public health, public safety and fair commercial regulation of alcohol products. For more information see http://abc.nc.gov.

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